



The Hunter Educator

Summer 2008

Volume 16, No. 2

Missouri Hunter Education Instructor's Association
P. O. Box 4505
Springfield, MO 65808-4505

Mission Statement:

It is the mission of the Missouri Hunter Education Instructor's Association to support and enhance the hunter education program in Missouri.

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Vice-President:
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Secretary:
Dennis Desmond
Treasurer:
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President's Column

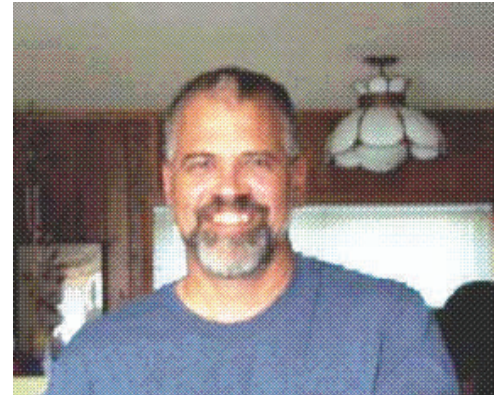
Frank Powers

We are currently in the process of setting up the 2009 annual conference. WE are looking at the first weekend in march at the Holiday Inn, Columbia. We are hoping for a two day event and currently working out the details.

If anyone has something they would like to see at the conference please let me or any other director know. We are looking to start putting together the agenda.

Jim Ragland and Dave Grossman are still needing volunteers to work the hunter Education booth at the state fair. Get to meet a lot of interesting people. Please contact Jim or Dave if able to help us out.

I am pleased to day that we have established a new fund. Thanks to donation of \$100 from a family in El Dorado Springs in Smitty Bear's name---we have established the "Smitty Bear Smith memorial fund



for youth related outdoor activities". A special thanks to Paul Meyers for a donation of \$500 to get this fund going.

We are setting up the criteria on the use of this fund to get youth involved with the outdoors working with MOE and our own instructors and other groups.

I know everyone gets tired of hearing this, but please get involved. There is not much input to the directors and we cannot do this alone.

Thanks and be safe

THE HUNTER EDUCATOR

Editor:

MHEIA Directors

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*The Missouri Hunter Education
Instructor's Association is
affiliated with the following
organizations:*

**The Conservation Federation of
Missouri**
www.confedmo.org/

**The International Hunter
Education Association**
www.ihea.com/

**The National Rifle Association of
America**
www.nra.org/

**Theodore Roosevelt
Conservation Partnership**
www.trcp.org/

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Association Happenings

The Association is moving with an eye to our future. We are currently setting new goals for the association as we see the changes resulting from us having to provide now. One of the most frequently asked questions heard when asked to join the Association--

What does the Association do for me?

Some of the goals we might act on in the near future--The association should be the Advocate for all instructors not only with MDC but others groups. 2300 instructors in the state heard as one voice is better suited than a few individuals trying to it.

Another goal is the Association should provide additional support for instructors. This might include setting up a new instructor mentoring, training aid and training. We are looking at changing the web site some. Pictures of events you hold. from your classes. Students first hunts. We are exploring an instructors only link to trade teaching tips.

The conference. The last goal is promote hunting in Missouri. It is a dying heritage as young people are not staying with the sport. Might do this by supporting other groups involved with youth--YHEC, Moe, MHHF, etc. Start having informational booths about the association at fairs, Bass Pro, Cabela events.

These are the ideas being discussed.
How do you feel about them?
Any thoughts? Suggestions?

We are looking at fund raisers to support these ideas and hopefully in the next month or so, start implementing them. The board is getting excited about our future and hopefully there is light at the end of the tunnel. Come join us and offer you support. This can work and we need you.

The conference will be held March 6th and 7th, 2009 at the Holiday Inn in Columbia. Info will be coming out in the near future. We are currently working on the agenda for the conference. Last year we were told more training and hope to have more. We have had a number of instructors with a specialty offers their services. Maybe a conference for instructors, by instructors this time? Give us your input. Support the association and its efforts in changes and fundraising.

Thank you---Frank Powers

This could be your last issue of the newsletter

Membership Dues Were Due March 1st, 2008

Many members have been taking care of their dues at the annual workshop or regional events. Currently we have the many members who have stated they did not remember when they needed to renew.

Every March 1st your membership is due. Please contact your regional director or fill out the membership form in this newsletter to stay current. If you have other instructors you teach with that are not members, get them a form and sign them up too.

Missouri Hunter Education Instructor’s Association
MHEIA Board Minutes of May 18th, 2008
Bass Pro Meeting Room, Columbia Missouri

Board Members present were Jim Robertson, Frank Powers, Bob Mallery, Deputy Paul Mayer, Deputy Sarah Smith, Dennis Desmond and guest Dave Grossman

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 am by Frank Powers. Frank opened the meeting with comments about concentrating on funding and setting guidelines and goals of the association. Frank gave the board a challenge to think about this association and a clear cut purpose and vision statement to meet the change in the time for the policy. There was a board consensus to bring back ideas to discuss on the areas of concentration.

The Board Minutes of April 13th, 2008 were handed out and approved.

Old Business:

Frank commented that he would like to see more involvement in M.O.E. (Missouri Outdoor Experience) and more training with possibly Regional Instructors training.

Awards Criteria –A motion was made to accept the Award Criteria. Motion approved.

Conference – Sarah is still working with a \$3,000 budget for Holiday Inn Select in Columbia on March 6th & 7th. John Trent suggested a first aid survival training. There is a need for speakers for training. A social was suggested for Friday evening with the Board Meeting and training on Saturday. We need to contact MDC for funding and program training.

Membership – Don emailed a list and said members renewal is down. We need to ask Don to send a new list of members out.

Newsletter – The next newsletter will have a deadline of July 15th, 2008. The news letter must be sent out.

Website – Dennis Desmond contacted Ron Brandenburg. We need to have MDC get a slot in the newsletter and us in theirs. We also need to ask others if they would like to do the newsletter. We need to check into linking with M.O.E.

By-laws – Frank said there was nothing to review at this time. A motion was made to review policies and insert them in the Directors Manual by Sarah Smith and seconded by Dennis Desmond. Motion approved.

Funding – It was suggested that we talk to other people and organizations and people to get ideas. It was suggested to have a fun shoot and open it to the public. Also mentioned were a golf tournament, Wal-Mart and Sam’s funding, and a flea market. We need to get a purpose and vision first before we begin the fundraising. We also need to think about the conference auction items.

Awards – Jim Robertson will ask Earl Williamson for the stuff for awards and get awards from him.

State Fair – Dave Grossman and Jim Ragland is working on the State Fair.

YHEC – Sarah, Don, and Leroy will be on the committee to help set up the safety trail.

May 18th, 2008 Minutes Continued

Historical – Frank will contact Doug to work on the history.

The association has lights left and action tapes that could be used for member incentives or benefits.

The New Hunter Education Books are not out yet.

Frank will work on budget proposals. We need to get an inventory of tables, projectors, plaques, etc.

New Business - projects:

Donations – Special funding to set up a Memorial Fund.

A motion was made to set up a fund to be called the “Smitty bear Memorial Fund” to be used for youth outdoor experiences by James Robertson and seconded by Bob Mallery. Motion approved. James Robertson will set up the criteria.

Frank Powers will email the Daisy Elkhound Foundation and ask about the video essay.

The next MHEIA board meeting will be July 13th, 2008 in the Bass Pro Meeting Room in Columbia.

A motion was made to adjourn, motion approved at 1:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Dennis Desmond, Secretary MHEIA

MHEIA TREASURER'S REPORT

Was not available at press time.
All reports shall appear in the next issue.

MHEIA Board Minutes July 13, 2008 Bass Pro Shop- Columbia

Board meeting was called to order at 10:58 a.m.
Tony Legg was our guest at the meeting.

Secretary Dennis Desmond was not present to give minutes from last meeting. Motion was made to suspend approval of minutes. It was seconded and passed.

Treasurers report was also suspended for approval from last meeting. Motion made, seconded, and passed.

President signed contract with Holiday Inn Select for our annual Conference in March, 2009.

The board discussed Goals/Objectives and to come up with a Mission Statement.

Goal 1: To be an advocate for instructors

Goal 2: To provide additional avenues of support for instructors.

Goal 3: To promote and support the heritage of hunting with youth.

Objectives

Goal 1: Increase membership.

Increase communication regionally with other instructors and OSS

Mentor new instructors.

Goal 2: Training

Teaching aides

Conference

Regionally meetings/gatherings

Goal 3: Educational booths

Mentor to youths and adults

Youth hunts

An application has been made up for individuals needing financial support from the Smitty bear youth fund. We would like for an instructor to follow the youth for pictures to be put in newsletter and on the website. More than one youth can apply.

Conference will be in March 2009. Sarah Smith is working on the agenda. She is trying to set up a Survival training, and different ways to teach our classes.

Funding was discussed both on the Regional level and State level. One fundraising idea was discussed about holding a “Dream Package” of guns and a safe. Board members are looking into cost and what we could get and will be discussed at next board meeting.

Website- want to be able to put tips, ideas, pictures to share. Also looking into have a member log-in to exchange ideas.

Next meeting will be September 14, 2008 at 10:30 a.m. at Bass Pro Shop- Columbia, MO.
Submitted by Sarah Smith

Our Membership voted to assist and promote
Missouri Outdoor Experience - MOE
 MOE has sent us a copy of their newsletter
 and we will share it with all our members in
 future editions of our newsletter.
 PLEASE SHOW YOUR SUPPORT
 TO A WONDERFUL ORGANIZATION

MOE NEWS

Well folks this newsletter is way over do! It is our goal to provide everyone with an update from time to time in order to keep everyone informed of MOE NEWS, EVENTS, and SUCCESS STORIES! This is one of many new under takings in the past year we hope you find this informative and enjoyable! Feel free to visit [our web site](#) to learn more about MOE or our [community forums](#) and take part in some friendly outdoor conversation!

2nd Annual MOE YOUTH TURKEY HUNT a LITERAL BLAST!

In Cooperation with the Missouri Department of Conservation, members from Missouri Outdoor Experience helped to further expand the Outdoor Education of six area youth during the 2008 Spring Youth Turkey Season. Hunters were selected by MDC as part of a multi part educational program which is designed to provide Skills, Experience and Education, in a variety of outdoor activities. View Online [2008 Turkey Hunt Photo Album](#)

FROM A CHILD'S EYES!

We began the 2008 youth turkey hunt with the MDC and MOE arriving at the Green Conservation Area on Friday evening. After everyone got there we sat down and introduced ourselves. We talked about gun safety and patterned our shotguns. Everyone enjoyed some Sticky Pig B.B.Q. We then learned how to I.D. turkeys and practiced our turkey calls. My Dad and I brought the camper. Most people slept in the building. I had to turn the heater on in the camper.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Some of the events we have planned or are working on! You can click upcoming events above to find out more.

- *Youth Archery 08
- *Fishing Day
- *1st Annual Youth Dove Hunt
- *Toby Olsen Memorial Youth Deer Hunt

CaMOE4Kids

We at MOE have noticed how fast kids grow out of their camo gear and many times it just sits in a drawer after one season of use. We also understand that buying new hunting clothes every year can get quite expensive. We hope this new program will offer a place for youth to benefit from getting good quality camo clothing and gear but to also help their fellow outdoorsman or woman in need

CONTACT US

For commits or suggestions email
info@missourioutdoorexperience.com

Correction

Newsletter labels for last mailing.

As many of you are aware, the names and address on the last issue were mixed up. This was an error on the labeling service's part. The problem has been corrected and should not happen again.

Please let us know if you find an error with any of your information as shown on this issue's label. The information should reflect your current membership records we have on file.

HUNTER EDUCATION INSTRUCTOR ASSOCIATIONS

- Alabama Hunter Education Association
<http://www.huntereducation.net/>
- Alberta Hunter Education Instructor's Association
<http://www.aheia.com/>
- Arkansas Hunter Education Association
<http://hunteredu.8k.com/about.html>
- California Pacific Coast Region Hunter Education Instructor Association
<http://www.cahuntereducation.org/>
- Georgia Hunter Education Association, Inc.
<http://www.ghea.net/>
- Indiana Hunter Education Association
<http://www.inhea.com/>
- Kentucky Hunter Education Association
<http://www.khea.org/>
- New York State Sportsman Education Program
<http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dfwmr/sportsed/>
- Pennsylvania Hunter Education Association
<http://www.geocities.com/pennhea/>
- Washington Hunter Education Instructor's Association
<http://hwdfw.wa.gov/enf/huntered/wheia.htm>
- West Virginia Hunter Education Association
<http://www.wvhuntered.com/>
- Wisconsin Hunter Education Instructor's Association
<http://www.itol.com/wheia/>

REGIONAL REPORTS

KANSAS CITY- Frank Powers

Summer is upon us and classes are started for the second half of the year. On Aug 25th Bass Pro has asked us to operate a booth for the association and would like us to present a small seminar oriented towards youth. Any help would be appreciated.

On Sept 27th we will have a booth at the hunting and fishing days out at James A Reed. Any help would be appreciated there also.

We are starting to get a lot of requests from Bass Pro to operate a booth at their events. If you are able to assist please let me know.

We are talking about a fun shoot to benefit the association here in KC. Don Sears has offered to help me out. We will definitely need a lot of help to put this on. I would like to start having quarterly meetings at first here in KC to inform all instructors of happenings within the association. I think we are moving in the right direction. I will be setting up and letting all know the date, time and place.

**PASS ON A TRADITION
TAKE A YOUTH HUNTING**



Wanted Old Hunting Gear

Anything that you would like to donate to MHEIA can be used in the auctions at the workshop or could be sold at the Wentzville flea market.

Check your closet for those pants that don't fit anymore, the decoys you upgraded from, the deer stand you don't use.

Check with your regional director on how to get it to the auction

NORTHEAST -Jim Robertson

Things in the Northeast Region are quiet right now. We've been dealing with lots of rain and flooding all over the place. Our counties along the Mississippi River were hit really hard with flood waters from the mighty river. It proved it's nick name this time. Water in a lot of the area was higher than it was during the flood of 1993.

With all of this water our turkey and quail hatch may be affected. We'll have to wait and see. Mosquitoes and ticks are very plentiful so who ever goes outdoors needs to really put on good bug repellent. There have been several reported cases of tick borne illness and some suspected cases of West Nile in the Region. Not good!!!!!!!!!!!!

Our Regional Awards banquet is coming up on August 16 at the American Legion Hall in Shelbina and is going to be coupled with some training on effective instruction in the class room. Yours truly has been asked to participate in delivering this training. This is an honor for me. We hope to see everyone there!!!

The new student manuals should be in your hands soon and with several changes so you need to go through this book long before taking it to the class room. If you are not familiar with the material I promise that someone in your class will call you on it.

Our membership is slipping greatly! If you know of an instructor that's not a member ask them to join. This Association is FOR THE MEMBERS!!! As it stands right now we are in jeopardy of loosing our seat on the CFM Board. This would not be in the best interest of the Association. Your help is needed!!

Have a safe summer,
Jim Robertson

REGIONAL REPORTS

CENTRAL - Dennis Desmond

Now is the time for many families to be on vacation and take a short break from the tedious life that they lead. It is also time for us to start thinking about and preparing for the upcoming Hunter Education classes for the rest of the summer and fall. Please send your class schedule to

Brian D. Flowers
Outdoor Skills Specialist
Outreach & Education Division
Missouri Department of Conservation
1907 Hillcrest Dr.
Columbia, MO 65201
573-882-8388 ext. 288
brian.flowers@mdc.mo.gov

and your Conservation agent so that prospective Hunters will know when you will hold a class. It is very important for us to get this information out because of all the conflicts that individuals have in trying to fit a hunter education class into their schedule.

Roger See has announced a Hunters Ed Class for Sept 26th & 27th in Montgomery Co. On the 28th there will be a Bow Hunter Ed course. If there are any Bow instructors that need to teach to complete their certification they would be glad to have them. The classes are posted on the website. If anyone has questions or wishes to attend feel free email Roger at r-o-see@peoplepc.com or call 573-564-5268 (H)/ 573-220-1736(C) or call 573-564-8084 (the Montgomery Co Sheriff's Dept) to sign up.

Things to find online:

MDC at website: www.mdc.mo.gov

MDC Hunter Education at website: <http://www.mdc.mo.gov/hunt/huntered>

www.mdc.mo.gov/hunt/huntered

MDC Ranges at website: www.mdc.mo.gov/areas/ranges

HE Tools™ and TMA (The Treestand Manufacturers Association) <http://www.hunterexam.com/usa/missouri/treestandSafety.aspx> - Tree Safety

Please send your updated addresses, phone numbers and emails to me. I will be trying to update the Central Region Data so please do not hesitate to send info to:

Dennis Desmond
RR #1, Box 206N,
Marshall, MO 65340
660-886-5258 (H)/660-815-7742(C)
desmondj@yahoo.com

SOUTHEAST - Dave Hoff

Ron Valleroy and Rick Presnell have offered to finish out the remaining part of my term. I will continue to help them through the first few meetings and regional events. Please feel free to contact me until we get everything lined out. I am sure you will find them both very helpful.

With the heat and school being out, things are quiet right now. Class schedules for the fall look to be about normal with the exception for the on-line class and field day events for testing. Dee Dee has put in a request for help and has some training sessions lined up for those that want to help. Please contact her at the regional office if you are interested.

Anyone wanting to help set up a youth hunt for fall turkey season please contact me as soon as possible. For it to be successful we need some planning time. We are looking for a place to hunt and instructors to act as guides. We need to remember that the young hunters we see in the classroom are the future of our sport. Let's work together and make it safe for these novice hunters to get some quality time in the field. Remember when you got hooked?

As my daughters are getting older and other interests are squeezing me out of the picture, I still get to be their guide, pack mule, and skinner-butcher. They laugh and say it is a fair trade for them helping their color blind father follow blood trails. I would never trade a moment in the field with them for anything. Experience it for yourself and take a kid, who does not have the opportunity to go out on their own, with you and watch them enjoy what you have for many years.

Enjoy the upcoming seasons and hunt safe.

**Thanks to Hunter Education,
Hunting is Safe
and Getting Safer!**



**Are
you willing**

**to offer a guided
youth hunt ?**

**Do you have a
location?**

**Do you want
to see
a child smile?**

**If you said YES
Check with your
regional director
on how to get
something
going in your region**

**IT IS TIME TO
GET INVOLVED**

The Instructor

There was a man who liked to hunt and loved the great outdoors.
It wasn't enough to enjoy it himself, he longed for something more.
He became an Instructor, to give something back by sharing what he'd learned.
As the years passed by he gained the respect that only can be earned.

Teaching hundreds of students in several classes each and every year,
He didn't get paid for his work, you see--- he was a volunteer.

He'd tell you why he gave his time and it wasn't for personal gain,
"If by teaching saves just one life then it will not be in vain".

The Instructor knew he made a difference deep within his soul.
He continued giving of himself with his sights set on the goal.
One life saved through years of teaching would make it all worthwhile.
His vision was clear, his mind made up --- he would go the extra mile.

There was a boy who was of age to take the Instructor's class.
He didn't care if he learned a thing all he wanted to do was pass.
He needed his card to buy permits to hunt for turkey and deer.
Passing the test was his only goal and flunking his only fear.

The boy knew all he needed to know about how to handle a gun.
This hunter's class was a waste of time--- he'd rather be having fun.
So he came to class with an attitude and resentment in his heart.
He just wanted to get it over with and couldn't wait for class to start.

When the course began the Instructor spoke with confidence in his voice.
The boy didn't want to pay attention, but he really had no choice.
By chapter's end the hook was set ---the Instructor established rapport.
Chapters two and three intrigued the boy-- he looked forward to chapter four.

At the end of class the boy was thrilled to learn he'd passed the test.
He got praise from the man he'd grown to respect and a patch for his hunting vest.
The boy left the room a different kid and would never be the same,
Learning more than he ever thought he could, feeling thankful that he came.

Deer season arrived the boy took his stand that morning on opening day.
Three hours flew by it was time to leave even though he wanted to stay.
The plan was to meet his brother and dad at the place where they parked the truck.
If he walked real quiet he'd still have a chance to see that big old buck.

He reached the road where the truck was parked, the others were already there.
The boy wished he'd seen at least one deer so he'd have a story to share.
As he approached the truck he realized the shells were still in his gun.
Unloading when he reached the road is what he should have done.

He grabbed the bolt to eject the shells, but paused for a moment instead.
Then he clearly heard the Instructor's voice, recalling one thing he'd said.
"Control the muzzle at all times, it's something that must be done".
That's when he noticed his dad was in line with the muzzle of his gun.

Quickly turning away to pull the bolt the gun went off with a blast.
Paralyzed with fear, he couldn't move---- all of it happened so fast.
The boy stood there staring at the spot where the bullet struck the ground,
Instantly knowing it could have been worse, it was nearly a fatal round.

A hard lesson learned, mistakes were made and the boy felt really bad.
He shuddered at the thought that he just nearly killed his dad.
But in the final seconds when it counted most, he pointed the muzzle away,
And although the Instructor would never know it, a life was saved that day.

(continued page 9)

As the years passed by the Instructor turned gray and wrinkles defined his face,
The message was clear that a younger man would have to take his place.
He hated the thought of not teaching again and hanging up his vest.
While his heart urged him to carry on, his body cried out for rest.

The Instructor relaxed in his easy chair knowing he gave his all,
As he gazed up at the plaques and awards that were hanging on the wall.
He'd done his best and was satisfied that he played a critical role,
But a sliver of doubt crept into his mind----had he reached his ultimate goal?

As the Instructor reflected on the past he couldn't help but smile,
His mission complete, there were no regrets---- he had gone that extra mile.
He taught thousands of students over the years and at last his work was done.
So how many lives did the Instructor save?----- I'll bet it's more than one.

Inspired by: Missouri Hunter Education Instructors
Property of: Missouri Department of Conservation

WHY VOLUNTEER TO TEACH HUNTER EDUCATION ?

What motivates you as a volunteer ? It can't be the money they pay us to teach. It can't be the attitudes you deal with when class first starts. You know, the "I am only here because the law says I have to be" attitude. It can be the smiles when you tell them passed their test, and watching that smile get bigger when you tell them "Dad missed more than you did." It can be the 30 minute phone call months after a class that comes from a grandfather thanking you for helping their grandchild through the class and letting them share their first hunt together.

Sometimes we find it hard to get motivated and sometimes you feel like throwing in the towel. We have so many reasons that inspire others and give a reason to keep going. We may only need to share a story, offer some ideas on overcoming a problem area with a teaching aid, or simply spending some time and helping them teach.

I have found that after 20 years, I still get motivated when I get in front of the class and I see those faces full of desire to pass the test. Understanding their fear of missing deer season with dad if they don't take enough notes and ask enough questions. Watching the faces of the older students, parents, sometimes even grandparents when they realize a bad habit they have isn't safe and their younger companion points it out.

A short time before I became an instructor, I was present when a firearm accident occurred. I share the story with my students each time I teach the ten commandments and use that story to show how they do prevent accidents.

I no longer get nervous before speaking, I no longer hesitate to answer question I wasn't expecting., when I know the answer. I get caught off guard sometimes, and laugh at some the things that come up, but that is what makes the class. I do find it hard to coordinate my schedule around work and teenagers in the house. I have as much fun if not more taking my daughters into the field deer hunting as I do when hunting myself. I have passed on the things I shared with my grandfather that I enjoyed the most, with my children and hope that they allow me to share the same with their children.

I was brought up to believe if you give more to the community than you take from it you leave it a better place. My inspiration has always been to prevent accidents and share my enjoyment of the outdoors.

Next MHEIA Board Meeting

WHEN

September 14th, 2008
10 am

WHERE

Bass Pro Shop
Columbia, MO.

WHAT

Is being discussed

Conference update
Fund raising
Membership
Plus your new ideas

WHY

Because you want to
make sure MHEIA
has a promising future
and you believe in what
we can accomplish
together.

How

Just show up at the
meeting and
participate.

2008 MHEIA Awards Nominations

Every year some outstanding MHEIA Member goes above and beyond the norm in bringing the Hunter Education message to the public.

This year we would like your help in recognizing those individuals that are the most truly deserving in your region.

Please help nominate a MHEIA Member from your Region, who continually contributes to the Hunter Education cause, who represents the best image a great Instructor, and who gives 100% or more in making MHEIA a better organization for the future.

The Choice is now yours!

Awards Nomination

I would like to nominate _____ for the

- Regional Instructor of the Year Award
- Friends of M.H.E.I.A. Award
- Ken Anderson Award
- Hall of Fame Award

For the contributions they have made to Hunter Education. I feel they are deserving of the award for the following reasons:

Submitted by _____

mail to

**Missouri Hunter Education Instructor's Association
P. O. Box 4505
Springfield, MO 65808-4505**

